

We claim:

1. Apparatus for molding a plastic cap having a top wall and a depending skirt having a plurality of inwardly and upwardly extending tabs integral with the lower edge of the skirt and a plurality of radially inwardly extending ribs integral with the inner wall surface of the skirt, comprising a fixed platen assembly, a core secured to said fixed platen assembly, a movable platen assembly spaced from said fixed platen assembly, a female mold having a cup-shaped cavity mounted in said movable platen assembly, said cup-shaped cavity being connected to a supply of flowable plastic material, a movable plate assembly and a fixed plate assembly positioned between the fixed and movable platens, said core extending through the movable and fixed plate assemblies into the cup-shaped cavity of said female mold, a plurality of longitudinally extending blades slidably mounted on the outer surface of said core, a first end of each of said blades being secured to said movable plate assembly, a second end of each of said blades extending into the female mold, recesses provided in the second end of each of said blades, said recesses having configurations corresponding to the inclined tabs and radially inwardly extending ribs on the cap, said core and blades being spaced inwardly from the wall of said cavity to provide a gap for receiving the flow of plastic material therein to form the cap, a drive member secured to said fixed plate assembly, a rotatable driven member mounted on said movable plate assembly, said rotatable driven member being operatively connected to said drive member, said driven member having an end portion engaging the lower peripheral edge of the molded cap skirt in the female mold, means for moving the movable plate assembly relative to

20 the fixed plate assembly, whereby the drive member on the fixed plate assembly causes the driven member on the movable plate assembly to rotate, to thereby rotate the molded cap relative to the second end of each of said blades for moving the cap tabs and ribs away from the blade recesses prior to stripping the finished cap from the apparatus.

2. Apparatus for molding a plastic cap according to Claim 1, wherein said drive member comprises a cylindrical linear drive member, said driven member comprising a ratchet sleeve mounted coaxially within the cylindrical drive member and slidably mounted on said core and blades, at least one axially extending offset slot provided in the side wall of said ratchet sleeve, and at least one pin fixedly mounted into said linear drive member and extending radially therefrom into said slot, whereby upon movement of the movable plate assembly, the pin in the slot causes the ratchet sleeve to rotate.

3. Apparatus for molding a plastic cap according to Claim 2, wherein a plurality of circumferentially spaced teeth are provided on the end portion of the ratchet sleeve, said teeth engaging the lower peripheral edge of the molded cap skirt.

4. Apparatus for molding a plastic cap according to Claim 3, wherein the movable plate assembly includes first and second plate members positioned on opposite sides of said fixed plate assembly, and the means for moving the movable plate assembly relative to the fixed plate assembly comprises at least one hydraulic cylinder connected to the first plate

5 member on one side of said fixed plate assembly, a depending rod connected to said first plate member and extending through said fixed plate assembly, the end of the rod being connected to the second plate member, whereby upon extension of the hydraulic cylinder the first plate member is moved away from one side of the fixed plate assembly and the second plate member is pulled by said rod toward the opposite side of said fixed plate assembly.

5. Apparatus for molding a plastic cap according to Claim 4, wherein the end of the rod connected to the second plate member is provided with a spring tensioned telescopic portion, whereby when the second plate member abuts said opposite side of the fixed plate assembly, the telescopic portion extends thereby allowing the first plate member to be moved further from the said one side of said fixed plate assembly.

6. Apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein a stripper is mounted in said first plate member, whereby the stripper removes the finished cap from the second end of each of said blades during said further movement of said first plate member.